

15. The telephone wire distribution center as in claim 14, further comprising: means for routing paired telephone wires through wire channel hooks in a wire channel of the wire distribution center.

16. The telephone wire distribution center as in claim 15, further comprising: means for bundling the plurality of wires in the wire channel.

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pferd et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,112,147) in view of Daoud (U.S. Patent No. 6,083,011).

Applicants respectfully submit that Pferd and Daoud, either alone or in combination, fail to establish *prima facie* obviousness of twice-amended claim 1. As set forth in M.P.E.P. § 2143.03, “to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.”

Claim 1 is directed to a telephone wire distribution center that organizes and labels at least one input wire pair along a first axis and organizes and labels output-wire pairs along a second axis that is substantially transverse to the first axis. Applicants respectfully submit that Pferd and Daoud, either alone or combination, do not teach or suggest a telephone wire distribution center that organizes and labels at least one input-wire pair and multiple output-wire pairs along substantially transverse axes, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Pferd and Daoud, either alone or in combination, do not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that, Pferd and Daoud, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations of claims 2-16 for at least reasons similar to those discussed above in connection with claim 1. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that claims 2-16 also contain patentable subject matter and are also in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Communication


If the Applicants may expedite consideration of the instant application in any way, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Date: September 25, 2002

By:


William J. Klein
Reg. No. 43,719

Phone: 312/715-1000
Facsimile: 312/715-1234

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
10 South Wacker Drive, Suite 3000
Chicago, Illinois 60606

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 11, and 14 as follows.

1. (Amended twice) A telephone wire distribution center comprising:

a front substantially planar surface;

at least one pair of punch down terminal strips attached to the front surface, wherein each punch down terminal strip includes a first termination area and a plurality of additional termination areas, wherein each termination area of a particular punch down terminal strip is electrically coupled in series by the particular punch down terminal strip to every other termination area of the same punch down terminal strip; ~~and~~

~~a an input-wire-pair-labeling region of~~ on the front surface for labeling at least one an input-wire pair, wherein the labeling region's location is substantially in line with a longitudinal axis of a first pair of the punch down terminal strips thereby indicating that the first pair of punch down terminal strips corresponds to a first input-wire pair; and

a plurality of output-wire-pair-labeling regions on the front surface, the plurality of labeling regions' being located substantially laterally with respect to the longitudinal axis of the first pair of punch down terminal strips thereby indicating that the plurality of additional termination areas correspond to a plurality of corresponding output-wire pairs, such that the first input-wire pair and the plurality of output-wire pairs are labeled and organized along substantially transverse axes.

6. (Amended) The telephone wire distribution center of claim 5, further comprising a label for each input telephone-wire pair electrically coupled to one of the punch down terminal strips.

11. (Amended twice) A method of organizing telephone wires comprising the steps of:
connecting a ~~single~~ plurality of paired input wire-wires to a respective plurality of labeled pair
pairs of electrically conductive terminal strips;

connecting a plurality of paired output wires to each of the plurality of the pair-pairs of electrically conductive terminal strips; and

labeling, on the distribution center, the respective destination of the paired output wires on the distribution center such that the plurality of paired output wires are labeled along an axis that is substantially perpendicular to an axis along which the plurality of pairs of electrically conductive terminal strips are labeled.

14. (Amended twice) A telephone wire distribution center comprising:
means for connecting a ~~single~~ plurality of paired input wire-wires to a respective plurality of labeled pairs ~~pair~~ of electrically conductive terminal strips;

means for connecting a plurality of paired output wires to each of the plurality of the pair
pairs of electrically conductive terminal strips; and

means for labeling, on the distribution center, the respective destination of the paired output wires on the distribution center such that the plurality of paired output wires are labeled along an axis that is substantially perpendicular to an axis along which the plurality of pairs of electrically

conductive terminal strips are labeled.